

CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled) A holding device for an optical element, said holding device, comprising: at least one member formed of a silicon-containing aluminum material.

2. (Currently Amended) A holding device as claimed in claim [[1]] 10, wherein the silicon content of said silicon-containing aluminum material is selected in such a way that the thermal expansion coefficient of said silicon-containing aluminum material is matched to the thermal expansion coefficient of the optical element.

3. (Original) A holding device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the optical element comprises at least one of: a lens, a plain plate, a mirror, and a prism.

4. (Currently Amended) A holding device as claimed in claim [[1]] 10, wherein, said [member] at least one mount comprises at least a portion of a lens mount.

5. (Cancelled) A holding device as claimed in claim 1, wherein, said member comprises at least a portion of an objective housing.

6. (Currently Amended) A holding device as claimed in claim [[1]] 10, wherein, the silicon content of said aluminum material is more than 15% by weight.

7. (Currently Amended) A holding device as claimed in claim [[1]] 10, wherein the silicon content of said aluminum material is more than 30% by weight or more than 40% by weight.

8. (Currently Amended) A holding device as claimed in claim [[1]] 10, said material is a material which, at a temperature in the region of 21°C, has a coefficient of thermal expansion $\alpha \leq 24 * 10^{-6} \text{ K}^{-1}$ at a density of $\rho \leq 7.5 \text{ g / cm}^3$.

9. (Cancelled) A holding device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said member comprises a part of an aerial picture camera.

10. (New) A holding device for holding an optical element, comprising:
an objective housing;
at least one mount which holds the optical element, said at least one mount being supported by said objective housing;
said objective housing and said at least one mount each being formed substantially entirely of a silicon-containing aluminum material.

11. (New) An objective for an aerial picture camera, comprising:
an objective housing;
an objective lens having a coefficient of thermal expansion;
a mount supported by said objective housing, said mount holding said objective lens;
said objective housing and said mount each being formed substantially entirely of a
silicon-containing aluminum material having a coefficient of thermal expansion which matches
said coefficient of thermal expansion of said objective lens.

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